

BILSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1907.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D., EDIN.

Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health,
and Ex-President of the Midland Branch.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SANITARY AUTHORITY



BILSTON :

PRINTED BY JOHN PRICE & SONS, MARKET PLACE.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28925919>

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BILSTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the following Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the District under your control, together with the Vital Statistics for the year 1907; this being my Twenty-third Annual Report.

Enteric Fever.—Ten cases of Enteric or Typhoid Fever (one of which, in the Wolverhampton and General Hospital, to which it had been admitted, proved fatal) were notified during the year, as compared with 15 during the previous year, 12 in the year 1905, 4 in 1904, 11 in 1903, and 12 in 1902.

Two cases came from the New Town Ward, 3 from the High Town Ward, 4 from Bradley Ward, 1 from Ettingshall, and none from the Town Hall Ward. They were, as usual, connected with small property in the poorer parts of the town, and were all connected with privy-middens, whose contamination of the soil around and near the dwellings is so constant.

A Report just issued by the Home Office is of peculiar significance as showing that a person who, years before, has suffered from an attack of Typhoid Fever, may, though again perfectly healthy, be actually the carrier of Typhoid bacilli, and the cause therefore of an epidemic. This probably explains a great many unaccountable epidemics. Dr. Branthwaite, the Home Office Inspector, in reporting on this outbreak at the Inebriate Reformatory at Brentry, says the investigation which has been made was of great interest, and the result, he thinks, should prove of much wider significance than is represented by the elucidation of a single epidemic. Klinger showed conclusively in 1906 that persons of either sex or any age, without symptoms of ill-health, might be bacilli-carriers and remain infective, in consequence for an indefinite number of years. Dr. Davies considered this as a possible explanation of the Brentry outbreak, and removed from her dairy work a woman who had passed through a regular attack of the disease six years previously although she had apparently recovered. In the end it was found that from time to time she was in an infective condition. The epidemic had started after her admission to kitchen work, where she

was able to contaminate food and milk in a modified degree, and it became more virulent after she was given dairy work only. Between September, 1906, and November, 1907, 28 persons were attacked with the disease and 2 died.

Scarlet Fever.—One hundred and eighty notifications of Scarlet Fever, referring to 178 cases, in 151 houses, were received during the year, as compared with 107 in the previous year, 50 in the year 1905, 155 in 1904, and 244 in 1903. Of these only 8 proved fatal, 2 in infants between 1 and 5 years, and 6 in children above 5 and under 15 years, showing that, though the epidemic was extensive and invaded all parts of the town, it was not of a dangerous type. Ten notifications were received in January, 14 in February, 21 in March, 24 in April, 9 in May, 11 in June, 10 in July, 13 in August, 13 in September, 20 in October, 21 in November and 14 in December. Sixty-six cases came from the Town Hall Ward, 47 from the New Town Ward, 46 from the High Town, 11 from Ettingshall, and 10 from Bradley. One hundred and twenty-four cases were treated in the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

The continued low fatality of Scarlet Fever is gratifying, but experience shows that the change of type of an infectious disease is not uncommon, and is frequently not continuous. Such diseases indeed, often occur in epidemic waves, and their character or malignancy also often vary in similar manner. It must not be overlooked too, that, apart from death, many serious complications are liable to ensue, leading, it may be, to permanent ill health. It is a disease that has extended enormously all over the country in recent years, and in populous districts like this is practically endemic—carelessness on the part of parents or guardians, and delay in notification, adding to this.

Measles.—Twenty-seven deaths, 10 being in infants under 1 year, 16 in infants above 1 and under 5 years, and 1 in a child above 5, were registered during the year as due to measles. Thirteen occurred in the New Town Ward, 9 in the Town Hall Ward, 3 in High Town Ward, 2 in Bradley and none in Ettingshall. One death was registered in May, 4 in June, 10 in July, 7 in August, 2 in September, 1 in November, and 2 in December.

With the view of preventing the spread of this disease the following schools were closed for the periods named :—

Holy Trinity Schools	June 18 to July 15.
St. Mary's Schools	June 21 to July 15.
Swan Bank Council Schools	July 5 to the holidays.
St. Leonard's Schools	August 30 to September 21
St. Martin's Schools	Dec. 19 to Jan. 15, 1908.

In all cases it was also recommended that the buildings be cleansed and disinfected; and where there were Sunday Schools that they too should be closed. In one instance, I regret to say, the Vicar absolutely declined to allow this.

In October last, at the request of the Local Government Board I prepared a special Report on the recent prevalence of Measles, part of which, for permanence of record, is here introduced:—

“ In June of last year, at the request of the Local Government Board, I prepared a special Report on the prevalence of Measles in the District, and many of the comments then made, e.g. as to the methods of spread of such a disease in a district like this, need not be repeated.

In the earlier part of the year Measles was known to exist in the immediately surrounding districts, and it again easily invaded this town. The first death occurred on May 26th in a young baby only 13 months old living in Free Street; 4 more deaths were registered in June, all in the same neighbourhood and all in infants of 1 year or less: in the quarter July 1st to September 30th, the period now specially under review, 19 more deaths were registered from this disease, 8 of which were in infants only 1 year or less in age, 7 in children from 1 to 2 years, 3 in children of 2 years and under 5, and only 1 above the latter, a child 6 years of age.

Thus 12 of the deaths, that is half the total number, were in infants of 1 year and under, and 8 more under 2 years. Eighteen of the deaths were specially attributed to Bronchitis or Pneumonia superceding on Measles, and 3 others to Convulsions. The majority, too, occurred in the New Town Ward,—that in which the first death occurred, and the one also in which the incidence was greatest in the epidemic of the preceding year.

It is impossible to give the number,—undoubtedly a large one,—of children affected, as Measles is not a notifiable disease; and the mortality rate therefore cannot be calculated. That it should spread rapidly in this district, and even prevail for a prolonged period, is not surprising when it is remembered with what indifference it is usually regarded. In the great proportion of cases no medical man is called in, at least until, and unless, a fatal termination is apprehended (and then frequently only at the last moment) and no attempt whatever is made to isolate the patient; that so many too of the very young who are seized with this complaint should die is obvious, for often no trouble is taken to keep them in bed or specially warm. A recent instance—one among many—within my own personal knowledge may suffice to illustrate this.—In one house I found a child, only 4 years of age, sitting in a kitchen fully dressed, with a door opening directly to the yard, and two younger children playing with it. The father was sitting beside the child, having his dinner, before returning to work, to join a large number of other employees, old and young of both sexes, in a large factory. The face and body of this child were covered with a rash, yet no attempt was made to keep it particularly warm, least of all to place it in bed, and at the moment of my visit the mother was in her neighbour's house where other children were assembled. The fact that these cases are infectious also before the rash appears, adds to the ease and rapidity of their dissemination.

These considerations readily account for the prevalence and recent re-erudescence—for I regret to state that the cases appear again to be on the increase—of Measles, and it is evident that the disease is one over which we can exercise comparatively little control. Everything possible has been done to lessen and eliminate the epidemic. Children from known infected houses have not been allowed to attend school,—no doubt in many instances we have been kept in ignorance of the cases. The day schools specified were on my recommendation closed for the periods stated, to assist further in preventing the spread of the disease, and the buildings were cleansed and disinfected. In all cases I suggested that the Sunday Schools meeting in the same buildings should also be closed for the same period, with the result that with one marked exception this was agreed to. I may add that I visited all the Schools during the epidemic and examined some of the children.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—Sixteen notifications referring to 15 cases of Diphtheria in 15 houses, were received during the year, as compared with 10 in the previous year, 5 in the year 1905, 5 in 1904, 13 in 1903, and 17 in 1902. Three cases ended fatally. One in a child under 5 years of age and 2 over 5.

It is to be regretted that more use is not made here of the arrangement between the County Council and the Birmingham University whereby bacteriological examinations are now made free of charge. In only two cases was this assistance sought, with a positive result in one, and a negative result in the other. In the absence of such a test the diagnosis cannot be confirmed, and it is open to doubt whether all were cases of true diphtheria. Certainly some of them were very mild in character.

Whooping Cough.—Seven deaths, 6 in children under 5 years of age, occurred during the year from Whooping Cough. One was registered in January, 3 in February, 1 in March, 1 in April, and 1 in June. At the end of the year, too, there were some cases in the town. In the previous year 23 deaths were registered from this disease, 2 in the year 1905, 10 in 1904, and 7 in 1903.

Small Pox.—It is gratifying again to report that no case of Small Pox was notified during the year, nor has any been admitted to the Conjoint Small Pox Hospital from any of the contributing Authorities.

Diarrhœa.—Twenty-eight deaths from Diarrhœa, 22 in infants under 1 year of age, were registered during the year, as compared with 41 in the previous year, 42 in the year 1905, 59 in 1904, and 41 in 1903. This term now includes many deaths (from gastric catarrh and similar causes) that were formerly excluded. Indeed of the 28 here referred to 16 were certified as due to "Enteritis."

The following Table gives the total of these deaths in each month of the past 5 years, distinguishing those of infants under 1 year, of children between 1 and 5 years, and those above 5 years :—

	1903.				1904.				1905.				1906.				1907.			
	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and upwards.	Total.
January ...	4	1	—	5	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	1
February ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	2
March ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April ...	1	1	1	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
May ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June ...	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
July ...	2	1	—	3	4	—	1	5	8	—	1	9	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
August ...	3	1	—	4	22	3	3	28	12	4	3	19	10	1	1	12	4	—	—	4
September ...	5	1	3	12	11	—	1	12	5	—	—	5	12	6	2	20	4	1	—	5
October ...	6	2	—	8	2	—	1	3	1	—	1	2	1	3	1	5	9	—	—	9
November ...	2	2	—	4	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
December ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
	24	13	4	41	46	5	8	59	32	4	5	41	23	14	4	41	22	4	2	28
Rate pr 1000	1·6				2·3				1·6				1·6				1·1			

The causes of infantile Diarrhœa have been frequently discussed. They are largely (*a*) meteorological or climatic conditions, particularly a prolonged spell of hot weather, associated with deficient rainfall, especially in loose porous soils, charged with organic matters—and (*b*) general causes such as improper feeding, or, even more, from food kept in insanitary surroundings. Where the mother cannot fully nurse her child then cow's milk only—modified it may be—should be given for the first eight or nine months of life and *nothing else*. In the feeding of infants nothing is more essential than the most scrupulous cleanliness. Every vessel should be most carefully washed: in fact, where possible, boiling of the articles should take place. Feeding bottles with rubber and glass tubes ought to be abolished, as they are veritable death traps; and boat-shaped feeders, without glass or rubber tubes, used in their place. The quantity of food to be used for each meal should be carefully regulated, and in the hope that it will be of some assistance, the following table is added, which shows, approximately, the amount to be given at each meal, total required, and number of times to be fed in the twenty-four hours, the interval between each meal, and the number of feedings necessary at night according to age.

Amount for each Meal.			Total Amount in 24 hours.	Number of Meals.	Interval between each Meal.	During night number of Meals.	Age
$\frac{3}{4}$	to	1 oz.	10 oz.	10	2 hours	1	1st to 3rd day
1	„	$1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$12\frac{1}{2}$ „	10	2 „	1	3rd „ 7th „
$1\frac{1}{2}$	„	2 „	18 „	9	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	1	2nd „ 4th week
2	„	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	20 „	8	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	1	1th „ 6th „
$2\frac{1}{2}$	„	3 „	21 „	7	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	1	6th „ 8th „
3	„	$3\frac{1}{2}$ „	21 „	6	3 „	—	2nd „ 4th month
4	„	$4\frac{1}{2}$ „	27 „	6	3 „	—	1th „ 6th „
5	„	7 „	35 „	5	4 „	—	6th „ 8th „
8	„	10 „	50 „	5	$4\frac{1}{2}$ „	—	9th „ 12th „

8 tea-spoonfuls are equal to 1 ounce.
 4 dessert-spoonfuls „ 1 „
 2 table-spoonfuls „ 1 „
 5 ounces „ 1 gill.
 2 gills „ $\frac{1}{2}$ pint.

Erysipelas.—Sixteen cases of Erysipelas, of which 2 ended fatally, 1 a young infant under 12 months, were notified during the year, as compared with 22 in the previous year, 30 in the year 1905, 37 in 1904, 41 in 1903, and 39 in 1902.

Puerperal Fever.—Four cases of Puerperal Fever, all attended at first by women, were notified, and 3 died. Particulars were forwarded to the County Medical Officer: the women were suspended for four weeks and then not allowed to recommence duty until after thorough disinfection. Fortunately the present class of midwives must, necessarily, soon cease to exist. After April 1, 1910, no woman, unless registered under the Midwives Act, 1902, will be allowed to carry on this practice, and registration in the future will follow only upon thorough training and examination.

Zymotic Diseases.—Seventy-four deaths, 33 being in infants under 1 year of age, and 28 in children between 1 and 5 years, were attributed to the seven principal zymotic diseases, as compared with 91 in the previous year, 48 in the year 1905, 95 in 1904, 71 in 1903, 71 in 1902, and 105 in 1901.

The figures for the earlier year differ from those given in previous reports, due to the inclusion from 1901 onwards, under the term “Diarrhœa,” of cases formerly excluded.

The subjoined Table shows the number of deaths from each of these causes for the past year, and the previous 10 years, and gives the rate per 1000 of the population.

<i>Deaths from</i>	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
Scarlet Fever ...	8	6	1	4	2	5	8	11		1	8
Small Pox ...											
Measles ...	11	19		35	2	20	6	14	1	18	27
Whooping Cough ...	6	6	9	8	27	5	7	10	2	23	7
Enteric Fever ...	1	22	15	4	4	2	3		3	5	1
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	4	5	6	9	6	7	6	1	1	3	3
Diarrhea ...	69	61	60	30	64	32	11	59	41	41	28
Totals ...	99	119	91	90	105	71	71	95	48	91	74
Rate per thousand...	1·02	5·06	3·8	3·6	4·3	2·9	2·7	3·9	1·9	3·7	3·02

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ("Spotted Fever.")—Owing to the appearance of this disease in different parts of the country, I recommended that, subject to the consent of the Local Government Board, it should be made notifiable for a period of three months. This was done, but no case occurred in the district.

Vaccination—The returns of the Vaccination Officer are given for 10 years, 1897—1906, and for the first half of 1907 :—

	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	Half Year to June 30 1907.
Births Registered ..	963	934	959	892	878	939	895	899	937	899	492
Successfully Vaccinat'd	633	688	829	769	760	838	801	816	825	784	432
Insusceptible ...	3	1	11	7	3	3	1	1		1	2
Died Unvaccinated...	167	143	94	96	91	70	77	66	91	91	17
Postponed ...	8	5	1	1		5		1	4	1	2
Removed from District	26	10	10	6	10	13	4	4	1	7	3
Certificates of Con- scientious Objectors	5	12	8	6	11	10	12	11	12	15	5
Unaccounted for ...	121	75	6	7					4	0	1
	963	934	959	892	878	939	895	899	937	899	492

Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1888.—During the year 226 Certificates were received under this Act, as compared with 157 in the previous year, 97 in the year 1905, 204 in 1904, and 316 in 1903. They included 180 of Scarlet Fever, 10 of Enteric Fever, 16 of Diphtheria, 16 of Erysipelas, and 4 of Puerperal Fever.

The following table shows the number of Notifications of each disease in each month of the year, and also the totals for this and the previous 10 years:

	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Smallpox	Total
January	9	2		7	2		20
February	14	1		1	1		17
March	22		1	1	2		26
April	22	2	2	1	1		28
May	9			1			10
June	11		1	1			13
July	9	2		2	1		14
August	6			1	4		11
September	15						15
October	26	2		1	3		32
November	23				1		24
December	14	1			1		16
1907	180	10	4	16	16		226
1906	107	15	3	10	22		157
1905	50	12		5	30		97
1904	156	4	1	5	37	2	205
1903	244	11	7	13	41		316
1902	56	12		17	39		124
1901	34	18	1	13	19		115
1900	41	18	1	11	45		116
1899	20	71	1	11	36		139
1898	91	92	2	8	34		227
1897	112	9		6	19		146

Notifications received from each of the five Wards of the Township in each month of the year :—

	NEW TOWN WARD.	HIGH TOWN WARD.	TOWN HALL WARD.	BRADLEY WARD.	ETTINGSALL WARD.
January ...	2	5	6	2	5
February ...	4	5	4	1	3
March ...	2	8	12	2	2
April ...	4	7	15		2
May ...	2	5	2		1
June ...	5	2	5	1	
July ...	2	2	4	5	1
August ...	3	1		3	4
September ...	4	1	6	1	
October ...	13	9	1	4	2
November ...	8	7	8		
December ...	4	2	9		1
	53	57	75	20	21

Infectious Diseases Hospital.—Ten patients remained in Hospital at the end of 1906 and during 1907 no less than 124 were admitted. Of these 56 were under 5 years of age and 41 were above 5 and under 10 years. The youngest patient was 16 months and the oldest 39 years. The average period of detention was 49½ days, and 6 patients died, all, with one exception, 5 years of age or under.

A mere summary like this is sufficient to indicate the great value of the Hospital to this town, and the enormous amount of work it has represented during the past year.

Disinfecting Apparatus—The disinfecting apparatus has proved of great service, and 115 lots of bedding, &c., were disinfected. In many cases disinfection at the homes is most unsatisfactory, and in some quite impossible. The infected child frequently is not in bed but in a chair in the kitchen with the family, and there is no place to send the latter even if disinfection could be attempted. Difficulties of this kind naturally help to spread the disease.

Meteorology.—The total rainfall for the year ending December, 1907, was 28·81 inches, as against 26·41 inches in the previous year, 22·43 in 1905, and 20·6 inches in 1904. Observations were taken at the Lunt Outfall Sewage Works.

RAINFALL OF PAST FOUR YEARS.

	Inches in		Inches in		Inches in		Inches in
	1907.		1906.		1905.		1904.
January ...	1·22	...	3·55	...	·78	...	2·37
February ...	1·33	...	2·03	...	·64	...	3·37
March ...	1·12	...	1·10	...	2·95	...	1·47
April ...	1·87	...	1·54	...	1·89	...	1·19
May ...	3·99	...	2·72	...	·48	...	2·29
June ...	2·67	...	2·48	...	2·98	...	·36
July ...	2·22	...	·82	..	1·85	...	1·93
August ...	2·78	...	1·21	...	4·63	...	2·2
September ..	·96	...	1·27	...	1·73	...	1·96
October ...	5·39	...	4·97	...	1·37	...	·48
November ...	2·66	..	2·94	...	2·4	..	1·39
December ...	2·60	...	1·78	...	·76	...	1·59
Totals...	28·81		26·41		22·43		20·60

Sewerage.—Owing to unforeseen difficulties met with in the execution of the Main Drainage Scheme, the whole of the works have not been completed during the year, as was anticipated, and the Contractor has been granted an extension of six months over the contract time.

In my report last year I pointed out that difficulties might arise in connection with the conversion of privies to water-closets. These have evidently been recognised by the Legislature, and they can now be dealt with under the "Public Health Amendment Act," a most valuable measure which came into operation on the first day of this year and should receive the early attention of your Committee.

In this connection I am glad to be able to report that 49 connections of house drains, appertaining to 128 houses (other than new houses in course of construction), have been made to the sewers, under the supervision of the Surveyor's Department.

Insanitary Dwellings.—Much good work has been recently done in connection with the subject of insanitary dwellings. Some months ago a Committee was appointed by the Council, on my suggestion, to visit houses reported by me under the "Housing of the Working Classes Act" as unfit for human habitation, and, if necessary, to interview the owners and make arrangements where possible, for their voluntary closure without recourse to legal procedure. So far the progress has been most satisfactory.

48 houses were certified by me under this Act. 39 have been closed by arrangement with the owners, and 9 repaired. Some of those closed are already demolished and others will be taken down soon. These houses were small, ill-ventilated, dilapidated, mostly in small narrow courts in the more crowded streets of the town, and their removal will be a great advantage in allowing more light and air space to neighbouring dwellings.

In addition, 159 other notices under the "Public Health Act" were served for defects of various kinds, such as dampness, dirty rooms, dilapidated walls or ceilings, &c., and most of these too have been remedied. The paving of many courts and yards also has been re-laid or improved and ashpits and privies repaired or roofed over. 34 vaults were abolished and 41 new water-closets introduced in place of privy-middens or vaults.

The number of new houses certified as fit for human habitation during the year was 77. Plans were also submitted and approved for 2 office premises, 4 buildings of the warehouse class, 13 alterations and additions to existing premises, 2 cowsheds, and 2 stable buildings.

I have made inspections of several streets in different parts of the town with the Inspector, and instructed him, from time to time, to issue the necessary notices to remedy the various nuisances discovered.

Factories, Workshops, and Bakehouses—Under the term “Factories” are included all places in which mechanical power is used in the process of manufacture, and certain other places without mechanical power, when specified industries are carried on, such as glass works, lucifer match works, bookbinding, &c., all bakehouses in which mechanical power is used, and laundries. The supervision of these, in the main, is under H.M. Inspector of Factories, but four matters particularly concern your Council:—(1) The provision of proper egress in case of fire; (2) Sufficient closet accommodation for both sexes; (3) General insanitary conditions, which should be dealt with under the “Public Health Acts; and (4) Home-work.

There are 126 workshops, including 29 bakehouses, on the register, and all have been visited regularly and found on the whole satisfactory. There are very few outworkers here, only 6 in the list, and 16 visits have been made to their premises.

Dairies, Milkshops, and Cowsheds.—There are 38 dairies and milkshops, and 20 cowsheds on the register, all of which have been regularly inspected and verbal notices (no other were necessary) given, when required, to secure abatement of any defective conditions. Most of the cows are put out to graze every day, weather permitting, so that the specification of 800 cubic feet of air space for each animal does not apply. Some of the cowsheds require improvement as to drainage and ventilation. Two new ones have been erected in conformity with the Bye-law of 1907.

Lodging-houses and Slaughter-houses—The lodging-houses, 3 in number, and the slaughter-houses, of which there are 23, are periodically visited. They are all fairly satisfactory, and are whitewashed when required.

Vital Statistics.—The population of the district, at the census of 1901, was 24,034; 12,026 males and 12,008 females; and the area is 1,867 acres. 5,050 tenements were recorded at the census, including 3,372 with less than 5 rooms. The population to the middle of the year 1907 is estimated at 24,500, though this must be regarded as approximate only.

Births.—934 births, 453 males and 481 females, were registered during the year, being an increase of 35 on the previous year, and giving a birth rate of 38·1 per 1,000. The following gives the number of births, male and female, for the past 3 years:—

	—1907.—			—1906.—			—1905.—		
	Males.	F'ales.	Total.	Males.	F'ales.	Total.	Males.	F'ales.	Total.
First Quarter	103	127	230	123	100	223	131	128	259
Second „	121	141	262	117	114	231	111	120	231
Third „	102	101	203	98	120	218	106	122	228
Fourth „	127	112	239	128	99	227	108	111	219
	453	480	934	466	433	899	456	481	937

Table showing the number of Births, and Birth Rates, for the decade 1897—1906.

Year.	Males.	Females	Total	Avg'e per 1000 of Population.
1897	502	445	947	40.02
1898	490	445	935	39.7
1899	489	465	954	40.5
1900	440	452	892	36.4
1901	456	425	881	36.5
1902	442	492	934	38.7
1903	444	451	895	36.9
1904	465	434	899	37.07
1905	456	481	937	38.5
1906	446	433	899	36.8
Yearly Average 1897-06	463	452	917	38.1
1907	453	481	934	38.1

For purposes of comparison, the birth-rate of the whole country and of Staffordshire Urban and Rural Districts, for the same years, 1897-1906, are added together with the corresponding rates for England and Wales and of the large towns of England.

Districts.		1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Staffs.	Combined Urban & Rural	33.5	34	33.4	32.8	32.8	34	32.5	32.5	31.0	30.9
	Urban	34.8	35	34.5	33.9	34.1	35	33.4	33.7	32.0	31.9
	Rural	30.2	31.1	30.3	29.8	29.5	31.3	30.1	28.4	27.1	27.2
England & Wales		29.7	29.4	29.3	28.9	28.5	28.6	28.4	27.9	27.2	27.0
Large Towns in England		30.6	30.2	30.1	29.4	29.5	30	29.7	29.1	28.2	27.9
Bilston		40.2	39.7	36.1	36.5	38.8	38.7	36.9	37.07	36.8	38.1

Deaths.—During the year 455 deaths in the town were registered from all causes, 232 males and 223 females, being a decrease of 35 as compared with the previous year, and giving a death-rate of 18.5 per 1,000 of the population. The average yearly number of deaths for the decade 1897—1906 was 489, and for the last half of that period 447. In addition 35 deaths of residents occurred in the Workhouse and 24 in the Wolverhampton Hospital, these raising the rate to 20.9. I have no means of deducting the deaths of persons from other districts who died here during the year,—they would not be many.

Table giving the number of deaths in the district in each quarter of the year, classified according to age, etc.

	Males	Females	Total at all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.
1907.									
First Quarter	66	66	132	42	19	5	3	36	27
Second „	47	49	96	29	12	4	3	27	21
Third „	57	43	100	38	19	4	2	23	14
Fourth „	62	65	127	54	17	1	3	30	22
	232	223	455	163	67	14	11	116	81

Table of Deaths on page 25.

Table of Deaths classified according to disease, distinguishing deaths of children under 5 years of age, for the past 10 years.

YEARS.	AGE.	Cont'd. Fevers										Dysentery.	Diseases of Alimentary Organs.	Cholera.	Rheumatic Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pyæmia.	Puerperal Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	Heart Disease.	Inquests.	Uncertified.	Influenza.	All Other Diseases.	Totals at Ages Stated.	Total at all Ages.	Death-rate per thousand.	
		Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Croup (not spasmodic).	Whooping Cough.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Other or Doubtful.																				
1898	Under 5	19	9	1	1	1	5	2		59					1					7	50	8	3	1	151	314		549	23·3	
	5 upwds.			2	2	1	1	20		2							1		15	49	19	15	1	5	102	235				
1899	Under 5			1		3	8	2		58											47		12	1		115	247		469	19·9
	5 upwds.				2	1	1	13		2									19	55	13	21	3	4	88	222				
1900	Under 5	31	2	1	5	8				29					1					2	67	2	15	1	152	319		557	22·7	
	5 upwds.	1	2	2	1			4		1				1		1		1	17	55	24	13	1	15	99	238				
1901	Under 5	2		3	2	26		1		56									3	45				6	2	135	281		499	20·7
	5 upwds.		2		1	1		3		2					2				28	52	19				6	218				
1902	Under 5	20	1	1	2	5				23									2	40		9	2	191	217		427	17·1		
	5 upwds.		1	1				2		1									33	46	26	6	7	87	210					
1903	Under 5	6	1	1	3	7				32									6	16	1	9	13	85	203		428	17·6		
	5 upwds.		1	1	1			3		1					2		1	24	40	29	26	9	84	225						
1904	Under 5	14	11		1	10				33					1				7	58	7		2	118	262		460	18·9		
	5 upwds.									6									17	12	29	15	5	84	198					
1905	Under 5	1			1	2				7									4	51	1	4			113	217		429	17·5	
	5 upwds.							3		2									16	53	21	19	3	93	212					
1906	Under 5	15	1	3		23				21									7	58	1	6			112	263		490	20·0	
	5 upwds.		3					5		2					1				28	45	17	20	6	98	227					
1907	Under 5	26	2	1		6				26									7	45		5		1	111	230		455	18·5	
	5 upwds.	1	6	2		1				2					1		2		18	44	21	17	4	106	225					

For purposes of comparison, the death rate of the whole country and of the Staffordshire Urban and Rural Districts for the past 10 years are given, together with the corresponding rates for England and Wales, and of the large towns in England :—

District.		1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906
Staffs.	General	17·8	17·7	17·2	18·7	17	15·8	15·3	16·4	15·4	15·2
	Urban	18·6	18·4	17·8	19·3	17·6	16·3	15·8	17·2	15·9	15·8
	Rural	15·7	15·5	15·4	16·8	15·4	14·4	13·5	14·4	13·5	13·0
	England and Wales ...	17·4	17·6	18·3	18·3	16·9	16·3	15·4	16·2	15·2	15·4
Large towns in England ...		19·1	18·3	20·2	19·5	17·7	17·4	16·3	17·2	15·7	15·9
Bilston		24·7	32·3	19·9	22·7	20·7	17·7	17·6	18·9	20	18·5

The preliminary statistical statement contained in the Registrar General's quarterly return shows that last year's birth-rate in England and Wales was again the lowest on record. The death-rate was also the lowest recorded, but as the latter decrease as compared with the ten years' average was 1·7 per 1,000 of population, as against a decline of 2·1 per 1,000 in the birth-rate, there appears to be no little cause for uneasiness.

The purport of these figures is emphasised by the fact that the "natural increase" of the population (excess of births over deaths) in 1907 was 393,315, whereas the average annual increase in the preceding five years was 409,456, a difference of no fewer than 16,141.

As a set-off to this apparent falling off in the growth of population is the satisfactory statement that infant mortality is on the decline. The rate for 1907 for children under one year of age was 118 per 1,000 of registered births, which, besides being 14 less than in 1906, and 27 lower than the decennial average, was the lowest recorded.

The actual birth-rate of England and Wales in 1907 was 26·3 per 1,000, or 0·8 below that of 1906. In the last quarter of the year births were in the proportion of 24·8 per 1,000 annually, or 2·5 lower than the mean rate for the same quarters in the ten preceding years. Thus the decline of the quarter alone was even more marked than that for the year. On the other hand, the death rate for 1907, which was 15 per 1,000, or 0·4 lower than that for 1906, was 14·7 annually for the quarter when it was 1·7—the same as for the year—below the mean rate.

Table of deaths during the past decade classified according to age and sex :—

Year	Males.	Females.	Total at all Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
1897	308	274	582	214	90	13	21	154	90
1898	276	273	549	214	100	17	23	124	71
1899	263	206	469	181	66	14	11	122	75
1900	294	263	557	198	121	14	18	110	96
1901	270	229	499	195	86	14	20	108	76
1902	229	198	427	142	75	17	18	117	58
1903	229	199	428	141	62	14	22	106	83
1904	250	210	460	198	64	7	8	109	74
1905	217	212	429	172	45	7	16	105	84
1906	233	257	490	161	102	17	19	115	76
Yearly Average 1897-1906.	256	232	489	182	81	13	17	117	78
1907.	232	223	455	163	67	14	11	116	84

Diseases of the Respiratory System.—93 deaths were registered as due to diseases of the respiratory system, 27 being in infants under 1 year and 18 were in children under 5 years of age. In the previous year there were 103 deaths from these causes, 107 in 1905, 100 in 1904, and 86 in 1903 and 1902. 11 occurred in January, 13 in February, 14 in March, 7 in April, 5 in May, 2 in June, 3 in July, 1 in August, 3 in September, 10 in October, 8 in November, and 16 in December.

Tuberculosis or Consumption.—31 deaths, 8 being in children under 5 years of age were registered as due to consumption of the lungs, and 11 more cases, 8 of which were in children under 5 years, were attributed to “other tuberculosis diseases.”

The close connection of this disease to the insanitary conditions in and around dwellings has been frequently described, but a recent report by the Health Department of Paris has lately been issued, containing the result of an inquiry, carried on for three years, into the connection between consumption and housing which is of enormous importance. In London consumption causes 7,000 deaths in a year, but in Paris, with an infinitely less population, the deaths actually average 9,500. The housing in Paris is mostly in tenements, the working population being crowded into immense blocks, built round inner courtyards, in such a way as to deprive many of the rooms of air and sun, and it is in these very places that consumption abounds. This report shows absolutely that there are certain groups of houses which, year after year, have a perfectly continuous and unbroken record of mortality from this

disease. Indeed it was found that during 1906, 7,807 consumptive deaths out of 9,573 occurred in houses with a previous consumptive record—and in some houses as many as 5 to 9, and even over 10, deaths occur in the year. Certain blocks of these contaminated houses (and they can be grouped) produce from year to year a steady third of the consumption deaths. Most of these houses, be it understood, are neither overcrowded nor decrepit—they are simply sunless and airless. It is quite possible that were a similar record of house inspection undertaken in England, we should also find in many instances a great many of these “houses of death.”

While this disease is really preventable, it is estimated that at least a million deaths occur each year in Europe from one form alone, pulmonary consumption. The possible measures against it are, first, preventive, under which heading may be included the improvement of national hygiene and stamina and the prevention of infection along the two great paths of food materials, that is the milk supply and bovine tuberculosis, and the direct transference of the disease from one sufferer to another; and secondly, curative, that is procedure directed to the cure, or at least the prolonged efficiency of those suffering from the disease. Cases are broadly classed as early, of the middle period, and advanced; the early cases may be cured, and rapidly cured under favourable conditions; the middle period cases may be patched up, taught how to live, and their usefulness greatly prolonged, but the advanced cases are incurable and constitute a grave menace to the community as centres of infection, and they at least should be isolated and the disease then regarded as infectious.

The two requisites for remedial results are early recognition of the disease, and equally early treatment under proper conditions. These conditions in most cases can only be attained in some of the Sanatoria that have in the last ten years been instituted in different parts of Europe, and then only by early admission. Even when permanent cure does not follow, the addition of some years to the working life of a man is of great remunerative value to the State; and the further training of the proper method of living, of the open window and all it means, is of the highest importance. In Germany the Workmen's Insurance Companies have been so impressed with this that they have actually provided their own Sanatoria, the results of treatment in which have been most satisfactory and the economic value has also been fully demonstrated.

Inquests.—23 enquiries were held by the Coroner during the year, as compared with 26 in the previous year, 23 in the year 1905, 22 in 1904, and 35 in 1903.

Uncertified Deaths.—For the seventh year in succession it is gratifying to note that no death occurred that was not certified either by a Medical Man or the Coroner.

Infantile Mortality.—168 children died in the first year of life (163 in the town, 3 in the Workhouse, and 2 in the General Hospital), as compared with 161 in the previous year, 172 in the year 1905, and 198 in 1904, being equal to an infantile mortality of 179 per 1,000 registered births.

Table giving the births, deaths, rate of infantile mortality, etc., for each of the five Wards of the Town for the past year.

	Area (in Acres)	Popula- tion Census 1901.	Births	Deaths	Deaths of Infants per 1000 Births.	Deaths from Diarrhœa	Deaths from Tubercu- losis	No. of No- tifica- tions of Enteric Fever.
Whole Town ...	1867	24,034	934	455	179	28	33	10
New Town Ward	289	5548	219	131	242	11	6	2
High Town Ward	115	5207	185	85	145	7	8	3
Town Hall Ward	520	5003	176	96	142	5	5	...
Bradley Ward ...	199	4221	155	69	174	2	10	4
Ettingshall Ward	444	4055	199	74	150	3	4	1

A consideration of Table V. will show that of the 163 infants dying in the town under 1 year, not less than 40 died in the first week, 17 from premature birth, 15 from defects existing at the moment of birth, and 2 from injury at birth. 22 more survived a little longer but died within the first month, 12 again from the results of prematurity or congenital defects. Within the year no less than 79 died from these two causes and atrophy or debility, 25 from bronchitis, and 12 from diarrhœa—a truly lamentable record, and one, too, that practically repeats itself every year.

While the general death rate for the last half century has been steadily declining there has been no corresponding decline in the mortality of infants under 1 year. In 1905, 120,000 infants perished, a fourth of all who died in that period. And this is not all; for a heavy death rate in infants entails a heavy rate of inefficiency and disease in those who survive, and who therefore start the journey of life with enfeebled constitutions. The distribution of infant mortality, it is well known, follows mainly in the wake of urbanisation—the denser the population, especially combined with industrial conditions, the greater the mortality. Rural life is more favourable to infancy.

This question is really a social one, and its remedy is intimately associated with the doctrine of “a living wage.” “The size of the offspring depends very decidedly on the diet and nutrition of the mother during pregnancy,” and arduous toil leads to pre-

mature births. The mother, therefore, must herself be healthy, be well fed and nourished, and properly housed in sanitary surroundings, for there is no satisfactory substitute for the mother's milk. Nothing else, not sterilised milk nor Municipal Depôts can take its place—it is even cheaper to feed the baby by feeding the mother, and this has been realised by a wealthy Frenchman. He has made the experiment of providing two good meals a day for nursing mothers, and the results have surpassed the most sanguine anticipations. The institution of Municipal Depôts for the supply of sterilised and modified cow's milk has passed the experimental stage and is proving of great service in many towns. The distribution of leaflets, giving simple instructions to the mothers, has long been in use here, but our hope must be in the girls of to-day and the next generation. These must be trained in the elementary schools; classes not only for cookery but for domestic economy, lessons on infant feeding, etc., should all form part of the school curriculum. It should not be overlooked that in this way too the mother will be trained through her own children; the lessons learnt at school will frequently be used at home and a beneficent influence over the parent thereby exercised. It is possible that in this, if in no other way, mothers may in time realise the foolishness of that abomination—"the teat," with all the evils attached to, and may also learn that a "mail-cart" or "go-cart" is not the place for a very young infant.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.—All Authorities have for years agreed that a much earlier registration of births in England was necessary in connection with this question of infantile mortality, and last year Parliament made such possible. The new Act, however, is not all that could be desired; the notification required is in addition to, and not in substitution for, the ordinary registration, whereas it would have been enough and much simpler had the period now allowed for the registration of a birth been reduced from six weeks to thirty-six hours.

The Act can be of no service unless a proper Health Visitor is appointed to visit the home of every new born child. In the presence of the fact that one-fifth of the total loss of life in infancy occurs in the first week of existence, it is obvious that the information secured by this Act when adopted can only be of value if it is at once utilised and followed up by immediate visits from a properly qualified Health Visitor. Indeed measures affecting the mother during pregnancy would appear often to be necessary, if this first week's mortality is to be appreciably reduced. The visits of such a worker would often be of value some time before the birth was expected. The Local Government Board will not consent to the adoption of the Act unless some provision of this kind is made, and it is for the Council to consider whether they can undertake this responsibility. It might be possible to combine these duties

with those of a School Nurse, in connection with the medical inspection of the children in the elementary schools, or to share in an appointment either with the County or some other neighbouring Authority. In any case the woman appointed should possess the Midwives' Diploma as well as the Certificate of the Sanitary Institute, or their equivalent.

The Act inflicts a grave injustice on members of the Medical Profession, in so far as it compels them to notify births without fee, and for this reason has met, and is meeting with formidable opposition in various parts of the country. If adopted here, however, I should be willing to agree to such arrangements which, while fulfilling the necessary conditions, would reduce this objection to a minimum. It should be noted that in this case only "the necessary information of the birth" must be given, no definition of what is necessary, being included in the Act, and it is for the Medical Officer of Health receiving the notification to decide this in the first instance.

There is ample scope here for the formation of a "Guild of Help," or similar voluntary agency, where the members would undertake to visit the homes of the people and instil into them lessons of thrift, of cleanliness of the home and person, of fresh air and the open window, and of "moderation in all things." The erection too of sanitary dwellings, suitable especially for those with smaller wages, would be a great boon, particularly if the owner would be content with nominal interest for his money, and would, as a set-off, insist that his tenants should keep such houses clean and sanitary.

Appended are the Tables required by the Local Government Board, the Home Office, and the County Council, together with the Sanitary Inspector's Statement, which gives a summary of the work done in his department during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D., EDIN.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Bilston,

February 20th, 1908.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT OF BILSTON
DURING 1907 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths Registered in District				Deaths of Resident registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NET DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
				DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.			AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number	Rate per 1000	Number	Rate per 1000 Births regist'd	Number	Rate per 1000		Num-ber.	Rate 1,000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1897	23,500	947	39.6	214	226	582	24.3			
1898	23,500	935	39.09	214	228	549	22.9			
1899	23,500	954	39.7	181	189	469	19.5			
1900	23,500	892	37.1	198	221	557	23.1			
1901	24,034	881	36.5	198	221	499	20.7			
1902	24,100	934	38.7	142	152	427	17.7			
1903	24,200	895	36.9	141	157.5	428	17.6			
1904	24,250	899	37.07	198	220.2	460	18.9			
1905	24,300	937	38.5	172	183.5	429	17.6	44	473	19.4
1906	24,400	899	36.8	161	170	490	20.0	80	570	23.3
Averages for years 1897-1906	23,928	917	37.9	181	196	489	20.2			
1907	24,500	934	38.1	163	179	455	18.5	59	514	20.9

Rates in columns 4, 8, and 11 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres—1,867.

Total population at all ages—24,034.

(Exclusive of area covered by water.)

(At Census of 1901.)

Number of inhabited houses—5,092.

Average number of persons per house—4.71.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—South Staffs. Conjoint Board Small-pox Hospital.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—(1) Wolverhampton General Hospital; (2) Union Infirmary.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

In recording the facts under the various headings, attention has been paid to the notes on the Tables.

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE II. VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1907 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Names of Localities.	Whole District.				New Town Ward.				High Town Ward.				Town Hall Ward.				Bradley Ward.				Fittingshall Ward.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1897	23,500	917	582	214					5,207	115	119	48	5,003	175	83	34	4,221	173	77	27	4,055	162	77	32
1898	23,500	935	549	214					5,222	186	78	28	5,017	190	76	21	4,233	163	94	28	4,064	168	60	26
1899	23,500	954	469	181					5,246	200	93	29	5,040	165	85	28	4,240	156	58	23	4,090	156	87	22
1900	23,500	892	557	198					5,256	175	92	39	5,050	184	94	34	4,240	159	83	29	4,110	157	78	40
1901	24,034	841	499	198	5,548	220	113	54	5,271	189	78	33	5,060	190	90	42	4,240	151	69	24	4,141	166	68	21
1902	24,100	931	427	112	5,561	227	119	39	5,301	186	95	29	5,070	152	93	27	4,240	160	76	25	4,129	173	64	20
1903	24,200	895	428	111	5,584	218	105	39																
1904	24,250	890	460	198	5,594	224	113	56																
1905	24,300	937	429	172	5,615	241	124	52																
1906	24,400	899	490	161	5,660	228	162	60																
Averages of years 1897 to 1906 ...	23,928	917	489	181																				
1907 ...	24,500	931	455	163	5,690	219	131	53	5,326	185	85	27	5,090	176	96	26	4,255	155	69	27	4,139	199	74	30

TABLE III. TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1907.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.		Cases notified in whole District.						Total cases notified in each locality					No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality					Total Cases removed to Hospital.
		At all Ages	Under 1 Year	1 to 5 Years	5 to 15 Years	15 to 25 Years	25 to 65 Years	65 years & upwards	New Town Ward	High Town Ward	Town Hall Ward	Bradley Ward	Ettingshall Ward	New Town Ward	High Town Ward	Town Hall Ward	Bradley Ward	Ettingshall Ward
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	16	6	8	1	1		1	3	1	4	7						
Erysipelas	...	16		1	3	9	3	3	4	6	1	2						
Scarlet Fever	...	180	252	117	8	4		47	46	66	10	11	31	37	42	7	7	124
Enteric Fever	...	10		1	3	6		2	3		4	1						
Puerperal Fever	...	4				4			1	2	1							
Totals	...	226	258	127	15	21	3	53	57	75	20	21	31	37	42	7	7	124

Isolation Hospital — Yes.

TABLE IV. CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1907.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.						Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to local- ities, whether occurring in or be- yond the District.					
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	New Town Ward.	High Town Ward.	Town Hall Ward.	Bradley Ward.	Ettingshall Ward.
Measles	27	10	16	1				13	3	9	2	
Scarlet Fever	8		2	6				1	2	3	2	
Whooping Cough	7	1	5	1				2	2		1	2
Diphtheria (inc. Membranous Croup)	3		1	1		1				1		2
Fever { Typhus												
{ Enteric	1					1				1		
{ Other Continued												
Epidemic Influenza	8		1			4	3	1	3	1	1	2
Diarrhoea	12	10	1			1		8	3		1	
Enteritis	16	12	3			1		3	4	5	1	3
Puerperal Fever	3				1	2			2		1	
Erysipelas	2	1					1				2	
Other septic diseases												
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	31	1	7	3	2	18		6	4	7	9	5
Other tubercular diseases ..	11		8		1	2		3	1	1	2	1
Cancer, malignant disease...	10					6	4	4	1	1	1	3
Bronchitis	78	25	15			19	19	28	7	21	15	7
Pneumonia	14	2	3		1	6	2	4	3	1	2	4
Pleurisy	1					1		1				
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of Liver)	2					2					1	1
Venereal diseases	1	1						1				
Premature birth	24	24						4	4	4	4	8
Diseases and accidents of parturition	6				2	1		2	3			1
Heart diseases	25				3	14	8	7	5	9	1	3
Accidents	10		5	1		3	1	3	2	1	1	3
Snicides	2					2						
Inquests	21	5		1	1	8	6	9	2	3	4	2
All other causes	191	76	7	2	5	12	59	50	43	41	27	30
All causes	514	168	74	16	16	137	103	150	97	109	78	80

TABLE V. INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1907.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
1. Common Infectious Diseases.																	
Measles ...												1	3	3	3	10	
2. Diarrhœal Diseases.																	
Diarrhœa, all forms ...				1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	12	
Enteritis, Muco-ent's., (Gastro-ent's.)						2	1	1	2					1	1	8	
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh								1								1	
3. Wasting Diseases.							1										
Premature birth ...	17	2	1	1	21	2	1										24
Congenital defects ...	15	4	2	2	23	4											27
Injury at Birth ...	2			2	2												2
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...				2	2	9	5	1	4	2	3		1	1			28
4. Tuberculous Diseases																	
Tuberculous Meningitis ...						1		1									2
Tuberculous Peritonitis :) Tabes Mesenterica)												1					1
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...								2									2
Erysipelas ...									1								1
Syphilis ...						1											1
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...												1					1
Convulsions ...	3		1		4					1		1					6
Bronchitis ...	1	1	1		3	3		4	2	3	3	2	3		2		25
Pneumonia ...						1						1					2
Smothering, overlying ...			1		1												1
Other causes ...	2	1	2		5	1	1		1	2		2		2			14
	40	7	11		62	25	9	11	9	7	10	6	8	9	6	6	168

Population, (estimated to middle of 1907), ... 24,500

Births in the year, (legitimate) ... 934

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants ... 158

.. .. illegitimate .. 10

Deaths from all causes at all ages ... 514

TABLE VI. SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE NUISANCE INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1907, IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BILSTON.

		ABATEMENT NOTICES			NUISANCES ABATED AFTER NOTICE BY	
		No. of Inspections and Observations made.	Informal Notices by Inspector.	Formal Notices by Authority.	Inspector.	Authority.
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Foul Conditions	3,354	294	159	251	135
	Structural Defects, Spouting 115, Roofs Repaired 140, Ashpits Roofed 14	269	294		269	
	Overcrowding	8	6		6	
	Unfit for Habitation	44	11	33	11	33
	Lodging-houses	29				
	Dairies and Milkshops	78				
	Cowsheds	86				
	Bakehouses	98				
	Slaughter-houses	90				
	Canal Boats	46				
	Ashpits & Privies, 17,355, 9,324	26,679				
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	21				
	Water Closets, New	41				
	Defective Traps	19				
House Drain'ge	No Disconnection					
	Other Faults, obstructed drains	31				
	Water Supply, plentiful supply tap					
	Pigsties	5				
	Animals improperly kept	6				
	Offensive Trades	None				
	Smoke Nuisances	None				
	Other Nuisances, yards paved 68, outbuildings repaired 36, privies repaired 6, pans in place of vaults 34, drains covered 24, outbuildings cleansed 9, houses repaired 66	243	294		243	
	Totals	31,147	899	192	780	168

Seizures of unwholesome food	2
Condemned by Magistrate	2
Prosecutions for exposing for sale	1
Convictions	1
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	
" " found Adulterated	
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	
" " condemned as unfit for use	

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	115
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease—All that were practicable.	
Schools	5
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	
Convictions	
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things	
Convictions	

NOTE.—When an Inspection or Notice embraces more than one defect, it may be enumerated separately as regards each such defect.

February 13th, 1908
Signed—WILLIAM H. WELLS,
Inspector of Nuisances.

TABLE VII. FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES,
AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION

Including Inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	244	None	None
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	10		
Total ...	254		

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	8	8		None
Want of ventilation	None			
Overcrowding	None			
Want of drainage of floors ..	None			
Other nuisances..	None			
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	None			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (s. 97 to 100)	None			
	8	8		

3.—HOME WORK.

Class.	Number.	
<i>List of Outworkers:—</i>	Number of	
	Lists.	Outworkers
		Residing in our District
Lists received	6	4
Addresses of outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities	3	
{ received from	3	
Inspections of outworkers' premises	16	

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Class.	Number.
Workshops on the Register at the end of 1907.	
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bake-houses, viz. :—	
Dressmakers and Milliners	40
Carpenters and Cabinet Makers	14
Bootmakers	12
Bakers	30
Miscellaneous	40
Total number of workshops on Register	136

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101):—	
Certificates granted during the year	None.
In use at end of the year	1

T. RIDLEY BAILEY, M.D.

February 20th, 1908.

Medical Officer of Health.